

Name: Paul Evan Huntzinger, R.Ph.

JOB TITLE: CHIEF PHARMACIST, UNITED STATES COAST GUARD INTEGRATED SUPPORT COMMAND, ALAMEDA, CALIFORNIA.

AGENCY: UNITED STATES COAST GUARD

(USCG)

## **EDUCATION/DEGREES/CERTIFICATES/INSTITUTIONS:**

CDR Huntzinger received his Bachelor of Science in Biology in 1986 from Oral Roberts University, a Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy in 1990 from Southwestern Oklahoma State University, a Master of Arts in Management in 1993 from Webster University, and a diploma from the Naval War College in 1997. Other types of certifications and training CDR Huntzinger has completed include:

- Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance Familiarization Program
- Disaster Assistance Response Team Training
- Coast Guard Civil Rights Officers Course
- American Cancer Society Tobacco Cessation Facilitator Class
- Navy Intermediate Leadership Class
- Combat Casualty Care Course
- Navy Officer Indoctrination School

# **CURRENT JOB DESCRIPTION:**

CDR Huntzinger is the Chief Pharmacist of the United States Coast Guard Integrated Support Command in Alameda, California. He manages pharmacy operations at a Coast Guard ambulatory care clinic, which averages approximately 80 prescriptions per day, and provides professional oversight to 14 other sickbay pharmacies in San Francisco and Hawaii. The pharmacies include Coast Guard air stations, clinics, and cutters.

## **QUALIFYING SKILLS FOR CURRENT POSITION:**

Prior to becoming a PHS officer, CDR Huntzinger was a pharmacist in the U.S. Navy. Working as a chief pharmacist and assistant chief pharmacist at different naval facilities equipped this officer with unique clinical and administrative skills that were useful and immediately employed in his current position.

#### REASONS FOR CHOOSING THE USPHS AS A CAREER:

The child of a career Army officer, CDR Huntzinger was exposed to military life at an early age. Therefore, a career in the federal realm of the pharmacy profession only

seemed natural. Although exposed primarily to the military sector and thus beginning his professional career with the Navy, a presentation given to his pharmacy class by PHS pharmacists working for the Indian Health Service stayed in the back of CDR Huntzinger's mind. Therefore, when the desire for a career change presented, this pharmacist considered his goals, explored the options, and decided on the Coast Guard with the U.S. Public Health Service.

## **Previous USPHS Assignments:**

Prior to beginning a career with the USPHS, CDR Huntzinger served as a pharmacist with the United States Navy. He began his Navy career stationed in Santa Ana, California as the Chief pharmacist of the Marine Corps Air Station El Toro Medical Clinic. While stationed there, CDR Huntzinger supervised all facets of an ambulatory care pharmacy, published a monthly pharmacy newsletter, established a pharmacy and therapeutics committee, served as medical liaison for three air shows involving over 1.5 million people, created a cross-training program for non-pharmacy technicians, and implemented an over-the-counter medication program. When the opportunity to serve in an overseas assignment presented itself, CDR Huntzinger seized the opportunity in the winter of 1994. He became the Assistant Chief of the Pharmacy Department, at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan. During this tour of duty, CDR Huntzinger carried out several different initiatives. Among them was he wrote the Staff Training chapter of the Command Business Plan, developed a comprehensive pharmacy technician educationtraining program, implemented a bi-monthly Adult Asthma Education Class, and instituted a hospital wide I.V. drug admixture guidelines policy. In June of 1995, CDR Huntzinger became the Chief Pharmacy Officer for the U.S. Naval Hospital, in Okinawa, Japan. During his tenure as chief pharmacist, he managed the implementation of new, an island-wide pharmacy supply order system and pharmacy computer system; assisted in the development of an outpatient antibiotic infusion program, developed an inpatient aminoglycoside monitoring program, initiated a cytotoxic agent administration program: instituted a technician swap program with the local air force base clinic; and supported U.S. operations with pharmaceutical support in Thailand, Indonesia, Hong Kong and the Philippines. CDR Huntzinger concluded his service with the Navy in Okinawa in June 1997.

#### MOST REWARDING USPHS PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

When asked what his most rewarding USPHS professional experience was, CDR Huntzinger stated, "working with a wide spectrum of pharmacists in a variety of settings through the PHS Pharmacist Professional Advisory Committee [PharmPAC], Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, and the Commissioned Officers Association [COA] to meet the missions and the goals of the PHS."

### Other Professional Interests/Activities:

CDR Huntzinger serves as a Mentor for the University of the Pacific pharmacy students, and as a Preceptor for University of California, San Francisco students. Additionally, this officer is:

- an American Pharmaceutical Association member
- Communications Committee Chair to the U.S. Public Health Service Pharmacy Professional Advisory Committee
- President of the California-Pacific Branch of the Commissioned Officers Association

- Association of Military Surgeons of the U.S.member
- Tricare Region 10 Pharmacy Committee member
- U.S. Naval War College Foundation graduate life member
- South Western Oklahoma State University School of Pharmacy Alumni Association life member

CDR Huntzinger also enjoys writing and has written articles for Military Medicine, The Journal of Air Force Pharmacy, Navy Medicine, Okinawa Today, and The Bulletin of the Chicago Herpetological Society. He has taken the training and experience acquired as a pharmacy officer in the U.S. Navy and has successfully applied them towards improving pharmacy services in the U.S. Coast Guard. This has resulted in both an exciting and professionally satisfying career for CDR Huntzinger. His many accomplishments and contributions exemplify just some of the benefits and rewards a pharmacy career in the United States Public Health Service may offer.